

VZCZCXYZ0026
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHMO #3559 3441230
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 091230Z DEC 08
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC PRIORITY 5415
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1059
INFO RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 4696
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 5248

UNCLAS MOSCOW 003559

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

USDA FAS FOR OCRA/KUYPERS; OSTA/HAMILTON, BEAN
PASS FSIS/HARRIES, DUTROW
PASS APHIS MITCHELL
STATE FOR EUR/RUS,
STATE PASS USTR FOR CHATTIN, HAFNER, KLEIN
BRUSSELS PASS APHIS/FERNANDEZ
VIENNA PASS APHIS/TANAKA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAGR ETRD ECON WTO RS
SUBJECT: MINAG DELISTS 7 MORE U.S. PORK
FACILITIES

REF: A) MOSCOW 3473 B) MOSCOW 2769, C) MOSCOW
2949, D) MOSCOW 3181

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

¶1. (SBU) SUMMARY: The Russian Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) advised via official letter dated December 5, 2008, that it had delisted an additional 7 out of 9 pork facilities that were recently inspected as part of a joint audit. These results immediately follow the findings of November 27, 2008, in which VPSS also delisted 7 out of 9 pork plants (REF A). The results of the remaining 11 pork facilities which were audited are still pending. Mirroring the November 27th letter, VPSS vowed that it will intensify border control on all pork products from the two establishments which were not delisted. FAS Moscow received the VPSS letter on December 9, 2008, and transmitted it plus a courtesy translation to USDA headquarters on the same day. END SUMMARY.

¶2. Begin Text
Moscow, December 05, 2008
No. FS-NV-2/12451

Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of International Affairs
USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)
Dr. Ronald K. Jones

Dear Dr. Jones,

The Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS) extends its regards to the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), USDA and, in addition to the letter #FS-NV-2/12067 of November 27, 2008, informs you of the following:

VPSS specialists completed analysis of the results of the audit of U.S. pork establishments that was conducted in the period from October 20 until October 23, 2008. The results showed that 7 establishments (# 3W, 687, 244 I, 6835, 20239, 21898, and 31965) did not comply with the Russian

requirements among 9 establishments inspected during that period. Therefore, the mentioned establishments are excluded from the list of U.S. establishments approved for the export of pork and pork by-products to the Russian Federation starting December 20, 2008.

We also inform you that VPSS will intensify control on the products from establishments # 3648 and #21059 in which the inspectors revealed insignificant violations of the Russian veterinary-sanitary requirements and norms.

Dr. Jones, let me assure you of my highest esteem.

Deputy Head

N.A. Vlasov

END TEXT

BEYRLE